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Image 1724

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/000,236
		Filing Date	November 30, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Smithies, Alan
		Group Art Unit	1724
		Examiner Name	Lawrence, Frank
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	200103GP

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below); return postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Remarks:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual Name	Kevin M. Kercher, Reg. No. 33,408 Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP	
Signature		
Date	January 27, 2004	

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: January 27, 2004 Express Mail Label No.: EV390576980US			
Typed or printed name	Beth Hookway		
Signature		Date	1-27-04

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: SMITHIES, ALAN

Serial No.: 10/000,236

Filed: November 30, 2001

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE POLYMER
FILTRATION MEDIUM

Interview Summary: January 12, 2004

Examiner: LAWRENCE, Frank

Group Art Unit: 1724

Attorney Docket No.: 15880-10003

Customer No.: 27520

Confirmation No.: 9250

REPLY TO SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW WITH EXAMINER ON DECEMBER 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a formal statement regarding the record of the substance of the Interview dated December 18, 2003 in response to the Interview Summary dated January 12, 2004. The listed items for a complete and proper recordation of the substance of an interview under 37 U.S.C. Section 1.133 are provided below:

- 1) There was no exhibit or demonstration that was conducted;
- 2) The claims discussed were Claim 1 and Claim 9;
- 3) The prior art discussed was European Patent Application No. EP 0 726 348;
- 4) There were no proposed amendments to the claims discussed with the exception that the Examiner proposed that the addition of another limitation, not found in EP 0 726 348, would overcome the rejection as indicated in the Interview Summary dated January 12, 2004;

5) The principal argument is that EP 0 726 348 specifically stated that both a fluoropolymer and a rigidizing film forming material should both be applied to the fabric since the use of a rigidizing film form material without the fluoropolymer will result in a "...decrease in tongue tear strength..." (Page 4, Line 43-45). It is the Examiner's position that a disclosure teaching an individual with ordinary skill in the art away from applying a rigidizing film forming material to a fabric, without a fluoropolymer, is still a disclosure of the application of a rigidizing film forming material to a fabric;

6) There were no other pertinent matters discussed; and

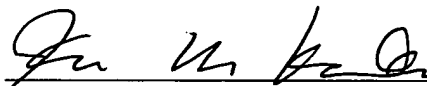
7) The outcome of the Interview is that no agreement was reached on the pending claims with the recommendation by the Examiner for the Applicant to file an RCE with an additional limitation that is not disclosed in European Patent Application No. EP 0 726 348. Moreover, as indicated in the Interview Summary dated January 12, 2003, European Patent Application No. EP 0 726 348 would not likely be used in a 35 U.S.C. Section 103 combination rejection due to the true "teaching away" situation created by European Patent Application No. EP 0 726 348.

Application No. 10/000,236
Reply to Interview Summary dated January 12, 2004
Inventor(s) Name: Alan Smithies
Attorney Docket No.: 15880-10003

If any issue regarding this Interview Summary or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding this Interview Summary, it is respectfully requested that Examiner, please telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 27, 2004

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin M. Kercher", is written over a horizontal line.

Kevin M. Kercher
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